

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager  
**CC:** Town Employees  
**Date:** May 10, 2010  
**Re:** Town Manager's Report

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Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

### **Budget and Finance**

- *Annual Town Meeting, FY 2010/11 Proposed Budget* -The Annual Town Meeting for Budget Consideration will be held tomorrow, May 11, 2010, at 7:00 PM at the Mansfield Middle School Auditorium. The League of Women Voters of Mansfield will once again provide refreshments prior to the Annual Town Meeting. Come early to get checked in, receive your ballot and enjoy some baked goods and lemonade or coffee while you wait for the meeting to begin. The coffee will be ready in the school cafeteria by 6:30 p.m. Please bring a form of identification to verify your eligibility to vote and bring your own mug or beverage container to help keep our carbon foot print light. The Town Council will conduct a special meeting immediately following the town meeting to discuss setting the mill rate for FY 2010/11. Interested residents are encouraged to see the Town's [website](#) for budget-related information.

### **Departmental/Division News**

- *Mansfield Public Library* - Amy Ziffer from *A Shady Lady Garden Design* will give a presentation on *A Connecticut Cottage Garden: Adapting a Classic Garden Style to New England* on May 14th at 7:00 PM in the Buchanan Auditorium. Ms. Ziffer has been designing, installing and maintaining gardens for clients in western Connecticut since 1998. She is a former editor at *Fine Gardening* magazine and a Master Gardener. *A Connecticut Cottage Garden: Adapting a Classic Garden Style to New England* is based on a unique cottage garden Ms. Ziffer designed and installed beginning in 2000. In this richly illustrated PowerPoint presentation, she will focus on what makes a cottage garden and how to adapt a style we associate with the English gardening tradition to our more challenging climate and environment. This program is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. For additional information contact the library at 860.423.2501.

### **Major Projects and Initiatives**

- *Police Study* - Next Monday and Thursday, the Regionalism Committee and key staff will interview five firms that responded to our request for qualifications (RFQ) to conduct an evaluation of present and future police services for the Town. As you will recall, the study has been highlighted as an objective under Mansfield 2020 (strategic plan). The committee's initial goal is to evaluate the five firms and to recommend a preferred consultant for appointment by the Town Council. This is an important initiative for the Town and we need to devote the time necessary to the study to help ensure a thorough evaluation with a quality end product.

### **Member Organizations**

- *Mansfield Downtown Partnership* - The Connecticut Main Street Center has announced the recipients for its 2010 Awards of Excellence. Among the honorees is the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc. The Partnership received the 2010 Award of Excellence for "Special Event" for its annual Festival on the Green. Now in its seventh year, the Festival on the Green is a community celebration that draws thousands of residents and visitors to the site of the future Storrs Center each September. As Chair of the Festival Committee, Mayor Paterson will accept the award on June 7 at CT Main Street's annual meeting in Bridgeport. UConn School of Fine Arts Dean David Woods and Partnership Advertising and Promotion Chair will also attend.
- *Windham Chamber of Commerce* - The Chamber of Commerce, Inc, Windham Region will be hosting an event celebrating the talents of local restaurants of Northeastern, Connecticut. "Taste of the Quiet Corner" will take place at the Willimantic Elks Lodge #1311. This event will feature sensational dishes and menu items from a variety of restaurants in the area. "Taste of the Quiet Corner" will take place Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 6:00 pm at the Willimantic Elks club of 198 Pleasant Street Willimantic, Connecticut. Tickets are \$40.00 per guest.

### **Miscellaneous**

- *Goodwin Fun Fair* - The Goodwin Fun Fair is on Saturday, May 22nd from 10-2 and it is the PTO's main fundraiser of the year. They have a variety of simple games for kids of all ages, such as bowling, ring toss, penny drop, face painting, a fish bowl game, cupcake decorating, a moon bounce, among many others. The PTO is looking for a commitment from former Goodwin students of an hour of help, if possible. Students should email Karri Prandy directly at [karbear818@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karbear818@sbcglobal.net) with their name, phone number and hour(s) they would like to help.
- *Storrs Farmers Market* - Storrs Farmers Market has begun its 16<sup>th</sup> season. The Market is open (rain or shine) every Saturday from 3:00 - 6:00 pm in the Town Hall parking lot. The only year-round market in the area, Storrs Farmers Market is a producer-only market. Everything sold at the market is "CT Grown," so the offerings change with the seasons. Visitors can expect to find all-natural beef, heritage breed pork and lamb, raw milk, and goats' milk and cheeses along with a vast array of vegetables and fruits, including heirloom varieties and sustainably-grown offerings. Hand-spun wool, local honey, local maple syrup, beeswax products, goats' milk soaps, and fresh baked goods are available all year. For more information, please email [StorrsFarmersMarket@gmail.com](mailto:StorrsFarmersMarket@gmail.com).

### **Upcoming Meetings\***

- Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board, May 11, 2010, 11:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, May 11, 2010, 2:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town/University Relations Committee, May 11, 2010, 4:00 PM, University of Connecticut, Bishop Center, Room 146
- Historic District Commission, May 11, 2010, 8:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, May 11, 2010, immediately following Annual Town Meeting, Auditorium, Mansfield Middle School
- Zoning Board of Appeals, May 12, 2010, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

- Mansfield Community Campus Partnership, May 13, 2010, 4:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Board of Education, May 13, 2010, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Planning and Zoning Commission, May 17, 2010, 2010, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Committee on Committees, May 17, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Conservation Commission, May 19, 2010, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Transportation Advisory Committee, May 20, 2010, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Personnel Committee, May 24, 2010, 6:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, May 24, 2010, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Annual Town Meeting, May 11, 2010, 7:00 PM, Mansfield Middle School Auditorium**

*\*Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*